

And there were 3,000 people in the Waldorf Astoria Ballroom. I had been, and have been since, to many of these dinners. It is quite unusual that you can even hear the speaker usually by half-way through the speech. We have all been at dinners like that.

I remember sitting there, and Fred Rogers was talking about how important it is to be a positive influence in one child's life. Now, we all talk about mentoring and the importance of mentoring. It is sort of a new and current thing to talk about. Well, Fred was ahead of his time. He talked about that.

He talked and gave the example of someone in his life who meant something to him. It was a rivetting and compelling speech. I remember he stopped and said: I am going to stop for a minute. And I want you to all think about someone who made a difference in your life. I am going to stop for 1 minute, and I just want you to think about that person, what they have meant to you, and whether you can be that person for somebody else.

And he stopped talking. And for a minute, in that ballroom, with 3,000 people in it, you could have heard a pin drop. That was the power of someone who not only reached out to children, and spoke and preached a good talk, but someone who lived it, and who was sincere, and acted it out in his life. Obviously, it had an impact on me because I remember it to this day. It inspired me to try to make that contribution to someone.

Mr. DAYTON. Will the Senator yield for another question?

Mr. SANTORUM. I am happy to yield.

Mr. DAYTON. I thank the Senator for bringing this great man to our attention. I was not aware, until the Senator spoke, about his passing.

I, like so many others, felt I knew this man indirectly, as the father of two sons, who are now 19 and 22 years old. So I reckon it was about for 20 years that I watched that show. And I think I looked forward to it as often as my sons did.

The Senator captured very eloquently and sensitively the spirit of a very gentle soul, yet a very visionary man.

I recall going to the National Education Foundation dinner here just after I arrived 2 years ago, and there were not as many people there as the Senator described in the event he mentioned, but there were a good 700, 800 people.

Mr. Rogers was receiving the honor, Award of the Year. The first thing I noticed was, when he came out, everybody knew the song, and they all sang that song. As the Senator said, you could have heard a pin drop when he spoke. And he spoke in the same general way to adults as he did to kids.

I say to the Senator, are there any other neighborhoods like that in Pittsburgh you could send to the rest of the country? If so, we can use a few.

Mr. SANTORUM. We have lots of wonderful neighborhoods. And like Minnesota, we have a lot of old, wonderful, ethnic neighborhoods. I think Mr. Rogers reflected that spirit in a lot of those communities—the close-knit, caring spirit, looking after your neighbor in those communities.

Some may suggest that "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" was from a bygone era that does not exist anymore, that that neighborhood isn't around anymore. Well, I make the argument that the neighborhood is what the neighbors make it, and that he sets a pretty good model for what neighbors should be, and neighborhoods can be, and, hopefully, again someday will be.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN HONOR OF PENNSYLVANIA'S HISTORICALLY BLACK UNIVERSITIES

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, in celebration of Black History Month, I rise today to honor Lincoln University and Cheyney University of Pennsylvania for the contribution they have made in the education of African-Americans over the past two centuries. These two institutions of higher learning are charter members of a group of schools known as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and they have had a seminal role in our Nation's academic heritage.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is proud to be the birthplace of secondary education for African-Americans in this country. Cheyney University, originally named the Institute for Colored Youth in Pennsylvania, was founded in 1837 as an elementary and high school for young blacks. The Institute was a successful, free school for young students and, after some years, became a teachers college. Cheyney's charter mission was to instruct African descendants in mechanical arts and agricultural trades so that they might teach their peers to compete and be self-sufficient in the post-slavery economy. Today, Cheyney educates men and women in more than thirty disciplines and maintains its legacy of providing for minorities of various cultures and nationalities.

Lincoln University rivals Cheyney for the title of oldest historically black university. Initially founded as the Ashmun Institute, the school opened in 1854 as the very first place of "higher education in the arts and sciences for male youth of African descent." In addition to the important message of educational equality and opportunity through learning these universities continue to convey, there are thousands of Lincoln and Cheyney alumni who illustrate the great gift these schools have given the African-American community in particular and the academic community at large. Among these graduates are Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, author

Langston Hughes, former Nigerian President Nnamdi Azikiwe, journalist Ed Bradley, and publisher Robert Bogle, to name but a few.

HBCUs are an integral aspect of what has always been the American dream, an ideal that sees education and industry as the tools for succeeding in life and pursuing one's talents and interests. The livelihood of institutions such as Lincoln and Cheyney Universities is central to the preservation of this ideal and with it, our national heritage. Our Government has a responsibility to help sustain the legacy of these schools, and I am proud to support legislation to this end. Bills that bring 21st Century technology to tomorrow's graduates and funds intended to keep quality, affordable higher education available to all of our Nation's young students are part of the process. I encourage my Senate colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of our country's HBCUs. I hope that together we can celebrate their history and ensure their future for the posterity of the Nation's higher education system. •

EMILY LANCE HAS A BLAST AT SPACE CENTER

• Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, today I share with my colleagues the thoughts of Emily Lance, an 8-year-old third grader at Calhoun Elementary School, who had the privilege of watching the launch of the Space Shuttle *Columbia*:

We left at 6 o'clock Tuesday morning, Jan. 14, to see the Space Shuttle launch. But first we had to get there. It was a 10-hour drive. We were staying at the Hilton.

Before we could get to the hotel, we had to go through security because the Israeli ambassador and the astronauts' families were staying there. Finally, we got to the room. Then we found our bathing suits and went out to the beach.

That's when we saw the horse patrol. They were very pretty horses. We found a lot of shells at the beach. Then we went back to our room, had dinner, and went to bed.

We woke up early and went to the Kennedy Space Center. We checked in the protocol office and got our mission briefing passes. Then we had to go through NASA security.

Going to the briefing wasn't all we did. First we checked out the Rocket Garden. It was huge and had replicas of the rockets that went into space.

Then it was time for the briefing. First we got our seats. There were a lot of people. The briefing was very interesting.

They announced that the shuttle was to go off at 10:39 Thursday morning. I learned a lot at the briefing.

After the briefing we went to the Mad Mission to Mars. It was 3-D and so cool. They called for volunteers, and I was picked. I was chosen to be the planet Venus. Then we were blasting off to Mars. Then it was the end of the show. After that we went to eat.

Then we got to see a movie called "The Dream Is Alive." I liked it very much. Then it was time to go back to the hotel. But before we did, I got to go get Space Dots. That is ice cream in little balls, also known as Dipping Dots.

Then it was time to go home after a great day at the Kennedy Space Center. I couldn't